Approation Serial No.: 09/747,666 Attorney Docket No.: 24122-381 Reply and Am ndm nt Dated November 3, 2003

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

This Listing of Claims will replace all prior versions and Listings of Claims in the Application.

1. (**Original**) A method for modifying addresses in a communications network, the method comprising the computer-implemented steps of:

receiving, at an intermediary, a request for an object that is associated with a server;

generating, at the intermediary, a combined address that identifies both an intermediary address associated with the intermediary and an object address that is determined based on the request;

determining whether the combined address satisfies a particular condition; and

when the combined address does not satisfy the particular condition, performing
the steps of:

substituting at least a portion of the combined address with one or more address identifiers to create a modified combined address, wherein the modified combined address satisfies the particular condition,

generating, at the intermediary, a modified request that is based upon the request and that includes the modified combined address, and sending the modified request to the server.

2. (**Currently Amended**) The method of Claim <u>36</u> [1], wherein the combined address satisfies the particular condition if a first size of the combined address does not exceed a specified size, wherein the combined address does not satisfy the particular condition if the first size of the combined address does exceed the specified size, and wherein the modified combined address satisfies the particular condition if a second size of the modified combined address does not exceed the specified size.

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3. (**Currently Amended**) The method of Claim <u>36</u> [1], wherein the step of substituting at least the portion of the combined address data with one or more address identifiers comprises the step of:

substituting at least one address identifier for the intermediary address.

4. (**Currently Amended**) The method of Claim <u>36</u> [1], wherein the step of substituting at least the portion of the combined address data with one or more address identifiers comprises the step of:

substituting at least one address identifier for the object address.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim <u>36</u> [1], further comprising the step of: selecting the one or more address identifiers based upon at least one attribute of the request for the object.

- (Currently Amended) The method of Claim <u>36</u> [1], further comprising the step of: selecting the one or more address identifiers based upon at least one attribute of the object.
- 7. (**Currently Amended**) The method of Claim <u>36</u> [1], further comprising the step of: selecting the one or more address identifiers based upon at least one attribute of the server.
- 8. (**Currently Amended**) The method of Claim <u>36</u> [1], wherein the request is received from a first participant of a transaction, wherein the transaction is between the first participant and a second participant, and wherein the second participant is associated with the server.
- 9. (**Original**) The method of Claim 8, wherein the first participant is a customer, the second participant is a merchant, and the transaction is a purchase by the customer from the merchant via a shopping application associated with the intermediary.

10. (**Original**) A method for analyzing addresses, the method comprising the computer-implemented steps of:

receiving a modified combined address, wherein the modified combined address is based on a combined address that does not satisfy a particular condition, wherein the modified combined address includes one or more address identifiers such that the modified combined address does satisfy the particular condition, and wherein the one or more address identifiers represents at least a portion of the combined address; and

interpreting the one or more address identifiers based upon a mapping between the one or more address identifiers and the portion of the combined address that is represented by the one or more address identifiers.

11-17. (Cancel Without Prejudice or Disclaimer)

18. (**Original**) A computer-readable medium for modifying addresses in a communications network, the computer-readable medium carrying one or more sequences of one or more instructions which, when executed by one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform the steps of:

receiving, at an intermediary, a request for an object that is associated with a server;

generating, at the intermediary, a combined address that identifies both an intermediary address associated with the intermediary and an object address that is determined based on the request;

determining whether the combined address satisfies a particular condition; and when the combined address does not satisfy the particular condition, performing the steps of:

substituting at least a portion of the combined address with one or more address identifiers to create a modified combined address, wherein the modified combined address satisfies the particular condition,

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generating, at the intermediary, a modified request that is based upon the request and that includes the modified combined address, and sending the modified request to the server.

- 19. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of Claim <u>37</u> [18], wherein the combined address satisfies the particular condition if a first size of the combined address does not exceed a specified size, wherein the combined address does not satisfy the particular condition if the first size of the combined address does exceed the specified size, and wherein the modified combined address satisfies the particular condition if a second combined address does not exceed the specified size.
- 20. (**Currently Amended**) The computer-readable medium of Claim <u>37</u> [18], wherein the step of substituting at least the portion of the combined address data with one or more address identifiers further comprises instructions which, when executed by one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to carry out the step of: substituting at least one address identifier for the intermediary address.
- 21. (**Currently Amended**) The computer-readable medium of Claim <u>37</u> [18], wherein the step of substituting at least the portion of the combined address data with one or more address identifiers further comprises instructions which, when executed by one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to carry out the step of: substituting at least one address identifier for the object address.
- 22. (**Currently Amended**) The computer-readable medium of Claim <u>37</u> [18], further comprising instructions which, when executed by one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to carry out the steps of:

selecting the one or more address identifiers based upon at least one attribute of the request for the object.

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23. (**Currently Amended**) The computer-readable medium of Claim <u>37</u> [18], further comprising instructions which, when executed by one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to carry out the step of:

selecting the one or more address identifiers based upon at least one attribute of the object.

24. (**Currently Amended**) The computer-readable medium of Claim <u>37</u> [18], further comprising instructions which, when executed by one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to carry out the step of:

selecting the one or more address identifiers based upon at least one attribute of the server.

- 25. (**Currently Amended**) The computer-readable medium of Claim <u>37</u> [18], wherein the request is received from a first participant of a transaction, wherein the transaction is between the first participant and a second participant, and wherein the second participant is associated with the server.
- 26. (**Original**) The computer-readable medium of Claim 25, wherein the first participant is a customer, the second participant is a merchant, and the transaction is a purchase by the customer from the merchant via a shopping application associated with the intermediary.
- 27. (**Original**) A computer-readable medium for analyzing addresses, the computer-readable medium carrying one or more sequences of one or more instructions which, when executed by one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform the steps of:

receiving a modified combined address, wherein the modified combined address is based on a combined address that does not satisfy a particular condition, wherein the modified combined address includes one or more address identifiers such that the

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modified combined address does satisfy the particular condition, and wherein the one or more address identifiers represents at least a portion of the combined address; and

interpreting the one or more address identifiers based upon a mapping between the one or more address identifiers and the portion of the combined address that is represented by the one or more address identifiers.

28-34. Cancel Without Prejudice or Disclaimer)

35. (**Original**) A system for modifying addresses in a communications network, the system comprising:

a server that is associated with an object; and

an intermediary that generates, in response to a request for the object received by the intermediary, a modified request to be sent to the server, wherein the modified request is based on the request and includes a modified combined address, wherein the modified combined address satisfies a particular condition by including one or more address identifiers that are substituted for at least a portion of a combined address, wherein the combined address identifies both an intermediary address associated with the intermediary and an object address that is determined based on the request, and wherein the combined address does not satisfy the particular condition.

36. (**New**) A method for modifying addresses in a communications network, the method comprising the computer-implemented steps of:

receiving, at an intermediary, a request for an object that is associated with a server;

generating, at the intermediary, a combined address that identifies both an intermediary address associated with the intermediary and an object address that is determined based on the request;

determining whether the combined address satisfies a particular condition;

substituting at least a portion of the combined address with one or more address identifiers to create a modified combined address, wherein the modified combined address satisfies the particular condition;

generating, at the intermediary, a modified request that is based upon the request and that includes the modified combined address; and sending the modified request to the server.

37. (New) A computer-readable medium for modifying addresses in a communications network, the computer-readable medium carrying one or more sequences of one or more instructions which, when executed by one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform the steps of:

receiving, at an intermediary, a request for an object that is associated with a server;

generating, at the intermediary, a combined address that identifies both an intermediary address associated with the intermediary and an object address that is determined based on the request;

determining whether the combined address satisfies a particular condition; substituting at least a portion of the combined address with one or more address identifiers to create a modified combined address, wherein the modified combined address satisfies the particular condition;

generating, at the intermediary, a modified request that is based upon the request and that includes the modified combined address; and sending the modified request to the server.

